

NY Chief of Staff Is Now Wing Vice Commander

Lt. Col. Mark Caiello, New York Wing's chief of staff for the past year and a half, is the new wing vice commander.

The Syracuse resident just completed 30 years of service with the Civil Air Patrol. He has been squadron commander, deputy group commander, and deputy wing inspector general. He has received numerous commanders' commendations and has received the Gill Robb Wilson Award for completing Level V training.

Lt. Colonel Caiello sees his role as an opportunity to work with the new wing commander and staff "to assist membership in achieving their goals" and "to create an environment where our talented members can share their expertise in leadership roles" around the wing.

"Continuing the work toward a 'ONE wing' mentality will only strengthen our programs and provide a safe and standard foundation for our members' training and achievements," he said.

The wing encompasses nine Groups, 50 Squadrons and 2,400 members across the state.

An avid coin collector, he is an active in a number of numismatic associations. He is treasurer and past president of the Empire State Numismatic Association, president of the Mismatic Coin Club, past president of the Syracuse Numismatic Association, and a life member of the American Numismatic Association. In fact, his passion for the hobby led Lt. Colonel Caiello to start his own business after working for 20 years for Home Insurance Company, where he was northeast regional operations manager. He operates a store in Liverpool, NY, dealing in rare coins, precious metals commodities and jewelry.

A graduate of Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse, Lt. Colonel Caiello received an associate's degree in business administration from Onondaga Community College and went on to take numerous management courses during his tenure with the insurance industry.

He and his wife, Cindy, have a son, Steven, and a daughter, Ashley, who reside at home, and another daughter, Amy, who recently completed four years of service with the U.S. Air Force, including a tour of duty in Kuwait and Qatar. She now resides in Melbourne, FL, with her husband who is stationed at Patrick Air Force Base. They have a 9-month-old daughter.

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